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1240 Greystone Park Drive

Raleigh, NC 27615

January 17, 2002

Renata Hesse
Trial Attorney
Antitrust Division
Department of Justice
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530

Microsoft Case

Dear Ms. Hesse:

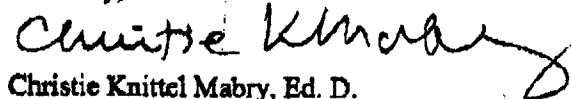
As a researcher and college professor, I use technology on a daily basis. Having an integrated, easy-to-use software system is critical for a productive work environment. Microsoft software allows access to a variety of products. The proposed consent decree with the Department of Justice will allow Microsoft to continue developing new products while at the same time giving Microsoft competitors some remedies for access to technical specifications and greater flexibility in installing non-Microsoft products in the Windows operating system.

While this settlement does not entirely satisfy any of the parties involved in the lawsuit, it does include important protections for consumers, computer manufacturers and software developers. One important aspect is the establishment of a Technical Committee that will monitor Microsoft's compliance with the settlement. A third party who has concerns about Microsoft's compliance will be able to file a complaint.

Certainly trying to reach a compromise is difficult, but it is important to our country to end the litigation and get technology companies focused again on building our economy. Prior to taking my current position, I worked with technology-related businesses. I saw the impact economic retrenchment has not only on companies but also on individuals.

Thank you for consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



Christie Knittel Mabry, Ed. D.